

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel Claims 6-34.

Please amend the following claim:

a<sup>1</sup> 1. (Amended) An immortalized [*Stat1*<sup>-/-</sup>] mammalian cell line homozygous for a *Stat1* null allele.

Please add the following claims:

35. The immortalized mammalian cell line of Claim 1, wherein viral tropism of said cell line has been altered to be permissive for viral growth relative to that of the same cell line with wild type alleles of *Stat1*.

az 36. The immortalized mammalian cell line of Claim 35, wherein the cells of said cell line are fibroblast cells capable of producing influenza virus at from about 10<sup>3</sup> to about 10<sup>6</sup> PFU/ml at about two days after having been infected.

37. The immortalized mammalian cell line of Claim 1, wherein said cell line is the cell line designated as ATCC accession number CRL-12425.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-5 are pending. New Claims 35, 36 and 37 recite further characteristics for the cells lines of the invention and is subject matter to which Applicant is entitled and are supported in the Specification at generally Page 6, Line 34 to Page 7, Line 29, and more specifically for each claim at Page 11, Line 29 to Page 12, Line 2; at Page 13, Lines 14-23 and in Table 2; and at Page 9, Lines 11-12, respectively. Claims 6-34, directed to non-elected subject matter, have been canceled without prejudice for refiling in a